

everything has its own language of course  
you already knew that

#### GUYS & DOLLS

reached Boston sometime in 1951  
the cast somewhat different  
from the original NY run  
no matter  
there we were  
back stage afterwards  
my mother introducing me to B S Pully  
who was in the original cast  
he was a dirty comedian of the era  
not that I knew that  
5 at the time  
life was overwhelming  
to be on the receiving end  
of so much attention  
even the gruff friendliness of B S Pully

#### ONE NIGHT AT THE COLONIAL THEATRE

back in 1959  
Danny Kaye was still a big deal  
to kids like me  
with his appealing nonsense  
my mother took me to see him  
backstage  
we were there before he was  
I can still see him  
walking in the stage door  
with his red hair  
& blue trenchcoat  
my mother introduced us  
he took a chair  
& placed it by the wings  
that was where I sat  
while he wowed the crowd  
every now & then  
he'd turn to me  
& make me feel incredibly special  
no easy feat  
when you're a fucked up 13 yr old  
apparently Mr Kaye's manager  
who was quite the handsome English gent  
had taken a liking to my mother  
every night  
she brought a different member



of the family  
to see Danny Kaye at the Colonial  
my father of course  
was not included

#### ONE OF THEM YEARS

depending on your taste  
it brought us  
Betty Carter & Annie Ross  
Clifford Brown  
Clint Eastwood  
the demise of Lon Chaney  
a certain editor  
who would object  
at the mere hint  
of his birth year  
we're talking about 1930 folks  
a soulful fucking year to say the least

#### THOSE LONG GUT-BUSTING LAUGHS

looking back  
only 3 come to mind  
one was a reunion  
with my very first girlfriend  
her husband asked if I'd been published  
I must've laughed for 10 straight minutes  
the answer was no  
the following year  
I was travelling around Florida  
with a female companion who informed me  
that her father used to be handsome  
that did it  
I was off again  
the last time was around 10 years ago  
when my mother said  
"I don't have cancer. Yet."  
it wasn't so funny  
when her remark proved to be prophetic

#### ADVICE FROM A FATHER WITHOUT CHILDREN

find something  
that you love  
give it your life  
& don't give two shits  
about what  
it might cost